



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE AGENTS DISMANTLE ANOTHER FRAUDULENT DOCUMENT OPERATION IN ADAMS MORGAN *Arrests are the latest in 'Operation Card Shark'*

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Special Agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested 29 illegal aliens and seized counterfeit documents at three separate locations in a continuing operation to disrupt and dismantle continuing false document, open -air markets in the Adams Morgan area of Washington, DC and Hyattsville, Maryland.

During the execution of the search warrant at 5114 54th Avenue in Hyattsville, Maryland, ICE agents confiscated 65 fake alien registration cards, ("green cards") fraudulent employment authorization cards, fraudulent Social Security cards and over \$1,900 in cash. Following the execution of the warrant at the Maryland location, agents made additional arrests between the 1700 -1800 blocks on Columbia Road NW in Washington, DC. Last night, agents executed another search warrant at the 906 P Street, NW in Washington, DC. At this location agents again confiscated fraudulent employment authorization cards, fake alien Registration cards, and Social Security cards.

The arrests yesterday follow a federal search warrant executed on June 30, by ICE agents at 4027 13 Street NW also in the Adams Morgan area. Alfredo Garcia, Raul Tellez Enciso, and Carlos Garcia-Lopez were arrested and charged with Possessing, Selling and Manufacturing Fraudulent Immigration Documents. Seized during that operation were 284 fake alien registration cards ("green cards"), 202 fraudulent Social Security cards, and other equipment believed to be used in the production of the fraudulent documents.

The law enforcement action was a joint operation in support of an ongoing ICE initiative called "Operation Card Shark." The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Joint Terrorism Task Force, (JTTF), Secret Service, Social Security Administration's Office of the Inspector General and the Metropolitan Police Department assisted in the investigation.

“Yesterday’s arrests demonstrate ICE’s commitment to thwarting identity theft and benefit fraud,” said Allan Doody, Special Agent-in-Charge of ICE’s Washington, D.C., and Office of Investigations. “Fraudulent identification can be a preferred tool for criminal and terror networks to carry out their schemes. By targeting the people, money and materials that support these illicit networks, ICE is putting these organizations out of business and increasing the overall security of the American homeland.”

Since May 2002, Operation Card Shark has identified several document vending organizations and has dismantled three of them. Eleven search warrants have been executed, five document “mills” have been shut down, approximately 9,000 documents have been seized (with an estimated street value of \$450,000), 119 aliens have been apprehended, 29 have been prosecuted, and 66 have been removed from the country.

A conviction for fraudulent immigration documents (18 USC 1546) is punishable by up to ten years in prison or \$250,000 fine, or both.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.